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AF 1762

Atty. Dkt. No. 016912-0203

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masaki KOBAYASHI et al.

Title: COATED CEMENTED CARBIDE EXCELLENT IN PEEL
STRENGTH AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

Appl. No.: 10/022,582

Filing Date: 12/20/2001

Examiner: B. Chen

Art Unit: 1762

RECEIVED**OCT 20 2003****TC 1700****REPLY AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated August 14, 2003, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the indication that the previous rejections of claims 22-37 are withdrawn. Claims 22-37 are rejected under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-18 of U.S. Patent No. 6,589,602. Applicants herewith submit a terminal disclaimer over U.S. Patent No. 6,589,602 to overcome the rejection.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 10/14/03

By Richard L. Schwaab

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.